

SHADE TREE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2013

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: K. Halpin, G. Pohorely, S. Marr
Absent: L. Ferguson

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting

The Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission Meeting was called to order and the “Open Public Meetings Act” read into the Record. The meeting was duly advertised and posted on the Bulletin Board for Monday, June 10, 2013. A Motion was made by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the amended minutes be approved for the meeting of May 13, 2013.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMUNICATIONS:

Washington Borough Public School sent a letter of appreciation to the Shade Tee Commission regarding the Arbor Day Program. A special thank you was given to Shade Tree Commissioner, Suzanne Marr and Mayor Scott McDonald for their time and dedication to educating the students about the importance of our environment.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Green Communities Grant - Paul Cowie, the consultant who will update the CFMP requested Accomplishment Reports from the last five years and a Purchase Order for the cost of his service. Due to previous commitments, Mr. Cowie is not available to meet with the Commission until August. The Commissioners agreed to arrange a meeting in September due to scheduling conflicts. K. Halpin will contact tree expert, Jeremy Summitt to evaluate trees that need maintenance as part of the grant’s in-kind hours. It was also suggested that the Commissioners go through the town’s tree inventory list to confirm that the tree locations and species are correctly documented. This would also be considered in-kind hours.
2. Oak Tree Replacement- Three Brothers Nursery replaced the Oak Tree that was planted last Spring at Memorial School with a Swamp Oak. The nursery was contacted about the planting method that was used. Three Brothers Nursery leaves the burlap around the root ball. G. Pohorely pulled back the burlap and rope as much as possible. K. Halpin requested that the maintenance person at Memorial School water the new tree regularly.

3. CSIP Grant Proposal- The Commission missed the 5/31/13 deadline for the application. K. Halpin will write the application for next year. The area of concentration will be a town trimming schedule and insect control.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Spruce Tree Removal- North Prospect Street is part of a street paving project in July. The New Jersey American Water Company will be replacing the water hydrant near the corner of North Prospect and Carlton Avenue prior to the street paving. However, the water company was concerned that the work around the hydrant might affect a large spruce that is close to the area. The Spruce is on the maintenance list for removal since it is not healthy tree. Tony Beasley from New Jersey American Water was informed of the tree's status and reassured that their work will not be an issue.
2. 26 Lenape Trail-Homeowner (Keith Eichler) requested to remove a tree located in his front yard. Mr. Eichler wanted to confirm that it was not a town tree. G. Pohorely visited the location and confirmed that the owner was responsible for the removal. Mr. Eichler was notified of the outcome. No further action will be taken.
3. 160 Van Buren Street- Homeowner (Tammy Taeschler) requested to have a declining tree removed from the front of her property. The tree is in the r.o.w. area. S. Marr visited the location and commented that the tree is declining and has some mold on the trunk. S. Marr also noted that a dead r.o.w. tree is diagonally across the street from Mrs. Taeschler's property. Both trees will be added to the maintenance list for removal.
4. Maintenance List- The Commission reviewed the 2013 tree maintenance list and agreed to acquire quotes for trim/removals at (8) locations. A vendor will be selected at the next Shade Tree meeting after the quotes have been discussed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business before the Commission, it was moved by G. Pohorely and seconded by S. Marr that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 3, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Fleming